Scarce had he spoken these words when Sir Robert, who stood and heard all being hidden in a close room, came forth into the Court, and falling down on his knee besought the Lord Steward that he might answer so false and foul a report Which being granted, he very vehemently challenged my Lord to name openly the Councillor to whom he spake these words The Earl refused Sir Robert therefore replied that it was to be held for an invented fiction , which the Earl denied, saying that my Lord of South-ampton was present when it was told him Then Sir Robert turned to the Earl of Southampton and adjured him to name the man My Lord of Southampton therefore referred it to the bench, and to Mr Secretary himself, whether in honour and reason he should name <u>him</u> And when they all thought it reasonable, he declared that it was Sir William Knollys

Then Sir Robert kneeling down again besought that Sir William Knollys might be sent for that he might have either a purgation or a condemnation So Mr Neville, one of the Privy Chamber, was sent, to whom Mr Secretary said, *CI* charge you, as you shall answer it at the dreadful Day of Judgment, that you tell her Majesty from me, that if any care of me or love to Sir William Knollys or any other respect shall move her to keep him back, and that he be not sent hither to satisfy the Court, I will live her Majesty's vassal and subject, but I will never serve her again as a Councillor *

Further words passed between Mr Secretary and the Earl, but by this time Sir William was come, of whom Sir Robert demanded if ever he heard him say that the Infanta: of Spain had a better title than some other Whereunto Sir William

answered that he remembered Mr Secretary talking of a book wherein the titles to the throne were set down he might perhaps say that the Infanta of Spain had a better title than some of them To which my Lord of Essex said, ' But these words were reported to me in another sense ' Then said Sir Robert, * Your malice whereby you seek to work me into hatred amongst all men hath flowed from no other cause than from my affection to peace for the good of my country and your own inflamed heart for war, for the benefit of military men which may be at your beck Hence was set forth your Apology against the peace, hence was conceived a general hatred against those which were